



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Volume 2, Number 2
December, 2000

Instructional Technology Staff
573/751-8247

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Instructional Technology Update

*In the October 2000 issue of Newsline, we wrote that there is an abundance of online resources available to teachers and referred readers to several articles that describe and /or evaluate such sites. As you'd expect, these resources vary in their coverage, services, and price. In this edition of Newsline, read about three web sites that are free of charge – and which should be of particular interest to Missouri teachers: SuccessLink's Great Teaching Ideas, eMINTS' eThemes, and the High Plains R*TEC's TrackStar. -Deb*

Technology Literacy Challenge Grants Update

The table below indicates the numbers and types of TLCHF grants submitted in September. With Congress out of session in November, there's still no word on the FY01 Education bill / budget in general and the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund Program in particular. As such, we do not plan to announce the approval status for first-year grants at this time with all the uncertainties.

First-Year Grant Applications Submitted September 2000

<i>Competition</i>	<i># Grants Evaluated</i>	<i># Grants Approved</i>	<i>Range of Scores</i>	<i>Cut-Off Score</i>	<i>Top Grant District Name</i>
Infrastructure	34	TBD	121-237	TBD	Halfway R-III
Teaching and Learning	50	TBD	137-246	TBD	Sullivan C-2
9/00 Total	84	TBD	121-246		

Total To Date	793	239			
Second-Year Grant Applications Submitted September 2000					
Infrastructure	47	47			
Teaching and Learning	29	29			
9/00 Total	76	76			

As mentioned last month, second-year grants were substantially approved as of October 1, 2000. Remaining FY00 funds will be used to support these continuation grants until we receive the new State grant award. Districts should use discretion in starting expensive, long-term activities.

Federal TLCF Reporting Requirements

A letter was mailed in mid-November to selected school administrators and last year's TLCF grant contacts regarding upcoming surveys to be conducted by the US Department of Education. The 2000 TLCF Online Performance Report must be completed by all FY01 TLCF grant recipients. The Integrated Studies of Educational Technology (ISET) -- online surveys to examine the effects of the Technology Literacy Challenge Fund and the E-rate programs -- surveys all state technology coordinators, a stratified, representative sample of public school districts nationwide, a sample of school buildings nested within the selected district sample, and a sample of teachers nested within the school building sample.

While the surveys average 90+ minutes to complete, I encourage all selected respondents to complete their ISET surveys. The information you provide will help the US Department of Education to promote the continuation of the TLCF and e-rate programs, help showcase the progresses and successes in Missouri schools, and help DESE identify areas needing more attention and fiscal support.

TAG/VIDEO Grants Update

As of November 30, 477 districts and 18 colleges and universities submitted new online applications for the Technology Acquisition and Enhancement (TAG) and the Video Instructional Development and Educational Opportunities (VIDEO) grant programs. The first payment for approved TAG/VIDEO grants will be issued this month. Applications approved by December 4 can still expect a December payment. Those approved after December 4th will receive their first payment in January.

Note that TAG grant recipients receive a first payment equal to one-half of the approved amount (at time of approval) and the balance upon receipt of the Final Expenditure Report. VIDEO grants receive a first payment equal to one-fourth of the approved amount (at time of approval) and the balance upon receipt of the Final Expenditure Report. Like the automated applications, districts will submit Final Expenditure Reports (FERs) online. FERs can be filed when program activities are complete and funds expended. DESE will begin accepting FERs in April. Final payments will be issued in June and July.

Technology Planning Task Force Update

The Technology Planning task force convened a special meeting on November 13, in Columbia, to discuss the efforts and progress made thus far in developing materials that would assist districts plan for, implement, and evaluate technology integration. Representatives from K-12 schools, higher education, and technology and/or education organizations reviewed the work created by the core work group and helped format and prioritize the many pieces of the document. Basic technology planning materials will be posted on the web in January, with additional resources added and posted as they are finalized.

If you would like to serve on this task force, you can participate by attending the meetings and/or via the discussion list. If interested, please contact Kathy Parris with Instructional Technology or Everett Loughridge at the Belton School District.

Missouri Educational Technology Professionals Association (METPA) Update

As mentioned in the last issue of *Newsline*, METPA was officially announced at the Missouri *Educational Technology Conference: Connecting Technology to Curriculum*, October 8-10. By the close of the conference, over 50 members had registered for membership. The task force and current METPA members are still meeting, developing a web site, and identifying other events or activities to help promote the Association.

If you are interested in attending the meetings or learning more about METPA, contact Rosalyn Wieberg with Instructional Technology or Glenna Norris at Affton Schools.

Technology Professional Development Task Force Update

The Professional Development Task Force met November 6 to continue the process of identifying and promoting strong professional development practices in Missouri schools. The three issues before the task force are:

- administrative support of technology professional development programs,
- support for the technology professional development implementers, and
- identifying and disseminating good technology professional development resources within the state.

Task Force members from a wide range of educational institutions and organizations are investigating resources and are expected to make recommendations about initiatives that will support these three areas. For further information about the task force, contact Claranne Vogel with Instructional Technology.

E-Rate Update

Year 3 (For services provided July 1, 2000 through June 30, 2001) -- On Thursday, November 30, 2000, the SLD released its **LAST** weekly wave of funding commitment decision letters for Year 3. This 29th wave of letters brings the total to-date to over \$2.085 billion in more than 26,300 letters, and continues to fund internal connections requests to applicants qualifying for a discount rate of 82% and above. Remaining money has been reserved for the small number of applications with unique circumstances that the SLD is still working to complete. For details on funding commitments made thus far for Year 3, visit

www.sl.universalservice.org/funding/y3/default.asp

Year 4 (For services provided July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002) -- The SLD opened the filing window for Funding Year 4 in November. The window will remain open for 74 calendar days, closing on Thursday, January 18, 2001, at 11:59 p.m. EST. All materials associated with the Form 471 have a January 18 deadline. Note that the January 18 deadline is a postmarking deadline – all manually submitted materials must be postmarked by no later than January 18. Be sure to use the newest forms, dated October 2000. Forms 470 and 471 may be filed on-line or downloaded for manual filing. You may access the forms from the SLD website at www.sl.universalservice.org or by calling the Client Service Bureau at 888-203-8100.

Last month, the SLD also posted a new Eligible Services List. This list provides guidance on the eligibility of products and services in preparing forms 471 for funding year 4. Note that new items have been declared eligible for discount, such as MCUs, multiplexors, video codecs, and other equipment necessary to transmit video to the classroom or library. End-user equipment in the classroom still does not qualify for discounts. To review or download the complete list, see www.sl.universalservice.org/reference/eligible.asp

Jeanne Sullivan at MOREnet is available to assist Missouri schools and libraries with questions or problems regarding the application process. She can be reached by telephone (573-884-7200) or email (jeanne@more.net).

The Missouri Heritage Project

On or around the first of the year, *Finding Missouri: Our History and Heritage* (a package of videotapes and a teacher's manual) will be distributed to every district, most public libraries in the State, and SuccessLink. Schools will want to duplicate the materials to share with all their appropriate teachers. The materials are intended to supplement the teaching of Missouri in social studies classrooms, grade 4-7. The videos average 12 minutes each, focus on a single topic, and feature documentary footage, primary sources, reenactments and interpretations of historical events and people, as well as footage of historical sites, interviews with experts, and fast-moving narrations designed to appeal to upper-elementary and middle-school students.

This is a reminder that videos will be aired over satellite this month. Anyone in Missouri can download and tape this series, which has been funded by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Historical Preservation Section of the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Copies of the videos may also be procured through Missouri's public broadcasting stations.

Finding Missouri will be broadcast in three parts. Please route this information to the person in your district who is responsible for recording satellite. You do NOT need to call to register for the program! If you need technical assistance, call 1-573-751-2721 or toll free 1-877-628-1678.

Air dates: Monday, December 4, 2000
 Monday, December 11, 2000
 Monday, December 18, 2000

Air Time: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Central Time
C-Band: Telstar 6 http://www.loralskynet.com/fleet/telstar6/t6ov_us.asp
Channel: 8
Frequency: 3860 Mhz.
Audio: 6.2/6.8

Monday, December 4 – Programs Aired:

Unit 1: Series Introduction * Unit 2: The Lay of the Land * Unit 3: The Ancient Ones
Unit 4: A Meeting of Cultures * Unit 5: Gateway West

Monday, December 11 – Programs Aired:

Unit 6: A State is Born * Unit 7: Coming to Missouri * Unit 8: Coming Through
Unit 9: Portrait of a River Town * Unit 10: What do We Stand For?
Unit 11: Divided & Torn * Unit 12: Changing Places

Monday, December 18th – Programs Aired:

Unit 13: Growth of the Cities * Unit 14: Come to the Fair * Unit 15: Old Routes, New Trails
Unit 16: The View From Independence * Unit 17: We Shall Overcome
Unit 18: Missouri's Resources * Unit 19: History Begins at Home

Great Teaching Ideas

<http://www.successlink.org/great/>

SuccessLink provides a searchable database of Great Teaching Ideas (GTIs) - lesson plans and units submitted by Missouri teachers and educators. Most GTI resources include the following information: materials needed for the lesson, subject area, grade level, Show-Me Standards, time allowance, lesson description and

objective, implementation of the performance-based activity, and scoring guide. Lessons can be searched by subject, grade level, and keyword as well as by Show-Me and MSIP Standards.

Each month, the homepage has a link showcasing specific lessons which might be of particular interest to educators. For example, last month the site showcased lessons on national government, Native Americans, and Thanksgiving. The home page also features MAP performance-based assessments by grade level.

SuccessLink now has over 1500 lessons on the web site covering every subject area and grade level. The web site is averaging over 25,000 hits per month from Missouri teachers and educators worldwide. Teachers interested in submitting teaching ideas may receive graduate credit, career ladder credit, or participate in the monthly cash award contest. For more information, contact Marsha Baclesse, Great Teaching Ideas Coordinator, at marshab@socket.net or call 888-636-4395. The NEW address is SuccessLink, 1111 Madison Street, Suite 4, Jefferson City, MO 65101.

eThemes – Linking the Internet to the Show-Me Standards

- Submitted by John Wedman, Director, School of Information Science & Learning Technologies-College of Education, University of Missouri-Columbia and MOREnet

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/>

If you are a 3rd or 4th grade teacher and need Internet resources linked to the Show-Me Standards, you should check out eThemes. eThemes is an online database containing hundreds of Internet sites, with the sites organized according to teaching units.

For example, let's say you are a 4th grade teacher and planning to do a unit on "hot air balloons." Enter this phrase in the eThemes Search screen and within seconds you find a Hot Air Balloon Resource -- a set of related web sites. The Resource has 18 web sites related to hot air balloons, ballooning, wind current, and gas laws.

The search results also tell you the grade level(s) of the Resource and which Show-Me Standards are addressed. In the Hot Air Balloon case, six Performance and ten Knowledge Standards are addressed. The web sites within the resource contain helpful information, tools, and other features relevant to the teaching unit. For example, one of the sites in the Hot Air Balloon Resource includes answers to many of the commonly asked questions about hot air balloons such as: How do balloons fly? How do you steer? What is the difference between hot air and gas balloons?

Resource searches can also be done by Knowledge or Performance Standard, a good approach when looking for ideas about how to link several standards together into a teaching unit.

eThemes was developed by MOREnet as a part of the eMINTS Project (<http://emints.more.net>). Currently, only eMINTS teachers can submit Resource Requests, but any teacher in Missouri (or beyond) can use the Resource Search feature, thus saving time while providing direct access to high quality teaching and learning resources on the Internet.

eThemes was recently evaluated and the results were very positive. One of the continuing refrains heard from the teachers who use eThemes was that eThemes enables the exchange of information, provides ready access to on-line resources, and encourages teachers to create interdisciplinary lessons.

The best way to learn about eThemes is to visit the web site. Click on: <http://emints.more.net/ethemes> and

give eThemes a try.

TrackStar

<http://trackstar.hprtec.org>

TrackStar allows teachers to create interactive lesson plans online. It is an online interface that helps teachers to organize and annotate web sites into lessons. An online tutorial is available to help locate or create a Track. To create a Track, you just enter your list of web sites and TrackStar organizes them into an interactive, online presentation. Then add your instructions, questions or quizzes, and you have a lesson on the web waiting for your students/learners. The list of resources acts like a table of contents and remains visible throughout the lesson allowing the user/student to easily browse through the lesson and stay on track.

Once created, the lessons are posted on the TrackStar web site. To locate a Track, you can search by author, keyword, theme, standard (including the Show-Me Standards), grade level, and subject. The search is updated with new subjects/grade levels every six months. Tracks can also be searched by special days or holiday, by clicking on This Month's Track-A-Day. For December, there are Tracks related to Christmas, Kwanzaa, the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Washington crossing the Delaware, and more.

A small number of Tracks have been designated as being of the highest quality. These Top Tracks are noted because they 1) stimulate higher order thinking skills, 2) have extensive resources with excellent annotations, 3) support project-based learning, 4) illustrate excellent use of primary resources, or 5) illustrate a creative way to use internet resources. To locate these Tracks, just click on Top Tracks or type "top track" in the keyword search.

Technology Planning Tip of the Month

How to Develop, Implement, and Evaluate Action Plans

-Submitted by Becky Klein, Raymore Peculiar R-II School District

The action items within our district technology plan are developed with input from a variety of resources:

- Building Technology committees—Each building has a committee of 5-7 teachers representing grade/subject areas whose purpose is to identify technology needs related to software, hardware, and training.
- CSIP Building committees—Each building's CSIP team develops action items for their building to improve the instructional focus of the school.
- District Strategic Plan committee—This committee, representing parents, business members, students, teachers, and administration, develops long range goals for the district.
- School Board and District Administration—As needs are identified in the district, the utilization of technology to fulfill these needs is recognized.

Overall technology goals are developed from items submitted by these resources. Within these goals, incremental action items are developed to help us achieve these goals.

Implementation is obtained by identifying monetary resources through district funds and grant applications. Responsibility is assigned to building personnel if the action item involves only one building. Training needs are routed through the district professional development committee with assistance and guidance from the district technology facilitator who is responsible for technology training. Integration of technology with the

curriculum is a joint effort between the technology division, curriculum director, and building principals. Hardware and software implementation is carried out by the technology division and building technology facilitators who assist with software installation and training.

Evaluation of action items is completed with surveys of teacher/student satisfaction, student achievement data, exhibition of student/teacher learning (projects, web pages, portfolios), and inventories of hardware obtained, software installed, or improvement of technology services. Pre- and post-surveys are helpful along with the annual census of technology in determining the completion of technology action items.

Developing, Implementing and Evaluating Action Plans

-Submitted by Kathel Cooper, Director of Media Services and Technology, Jefferson City Public Schools

Implementation is underway! Headaches galore? We hope not! If your well-written and executed technology plan has covered all the essential components then everything should be going smoothly. Implementation can be a breeze, but the evaluation phase can sometimes cause a snag if an evaluation procedure has not been written into the plan.

The importance of evaluation in technology planning and implementation is an on-going process for any school district. In every stage of planning and implementation, the district should be aware that it is accountable for the extent to which technology is helping to provide those strategies and resources that will inspire every student to do their best!

A technology plan and report should be presented annually to the Board of Education for their comments and approval. Assessments should be periodically given to staff and administrators for their input on technological instructional needs. The administrative staff needs to review

and report issues affecting the district, technology related items should always be included on the agendas for their meetings.

Other on-going communication of progress to school and community stake-holders can be achieved through a variety of methods including:

- School and district newsletters;
- Technology demonstrations at school committee meetings and school open houses;
- Establishment and operation of school web pages.

To facilitate the monitoring and evaluating process, meetings of the District Technology Committee and the administrative staff should be held to address district needs. The groups can continue to review goals/objectives which contain some standard of measurement for progress. When written in this type of format they are much easier to assess.

Example: By February 1, 1999 all students in grades K-1 will achieve an 80% mastery level on the committee designed technology assessment checklist, indicating competency in basic computer use. This objective is reflective of the JCPS action plan on Training/Staff Development - Ensure that all students and staff receive appropriate training to be effective and efficient in using various technologies.

It is of utmost importance to continuously monitor the implementation of the educational technology plan. Planning calls for knowing where you are, knowing where you want to be, and continually working to close the gap between the two. Continuously monitoring the development and implementation of hardware and software systems as well as evaluating the effects of an enhanced technological curriculum on students and staff must be an on-going process. Revision of the technology plan must be on going. While the mission and

vision of the educational technology plan may stay constant, the implementation plans will change constantly, as new products and possibilities become available.

Learning With Technology

- Featuring Dixon R-I and Marshfield R-I

Dixon R-I

TIP's, the Dixon R-I School TLCF grant, was designed to measure teachers' impact on students learning as they deliver instruction while utilizing technology. As we designed the project during the grant writing phase, it was our goal to place technology in the hands of teachers to be used as teaching tools and personal productivity aids. We wanted to create a classroom environment where teachers were the masters of the technology tools at their disposal including content software, productivity tools such as word processing and spreadsheet applications, and the Internet. Teachers were to monitor and "measure" student progress.

Intensive hands-on training for the 20 project teachers in the use of hardware and all software was another major focus for our activities. The hardware purchased included 20 desktop computers, printers, and hubs to connect classrooms to the district LAN, as well as 10 video/LCD data projectors to use with the computers or other video inputs for whole class activities. "Techno Nights" were held throughout the two school years with 28 workshops held on 20 different topics, such as basic computing, e-mail, Netscape, Windows95, HTML, word processing, desktop publishing and various Internet topics the first year and 32 workshops on 24 topics the second year. In an evaluation survey completed in May, 1999, one teacher commented that "the inservice activities provided at the Dixon R-I school district this year have been very useful. I am amazed how much I have learned this year". She then proceeded to list 10 activities that she "can do now with the computer in the classroom that I could not before".

In the spring, project teachers and pre-service education students from Drury College attended a full-day inservice directed at strategies for the "One Computer Classroom" which was conducted by an educator/trainer from Tom Snyder Productions software company. Content specific software titles for project teachers was previewed, purchased, and installed. Additional print resources such as reference materials for the Social Studies area (historically correct fiction, etc) were added to the library to supplement the research information available through the Internet and other district electronic databases.

First-year objectives of the grant focused on teachers learning to use technology in the classroom. We expected teachers to increase their comfort level with classroom technologies and uses for those tools. After their inservice, we asked project teachers to demonstrate their new knowledge by listing at least two new uses for the computer in their classroom. Ninety-nine percent of the teachers met or exceeded the objective (see comments above). A second expectation for teachers was the creation of sample lesson plans with activities that would integrate and coordinate the Show-Me Standards with the Information and Technology Literacy Companion document while modeling the use of technology. The Activity guides were completed and presented in a workshop at the VIDEO Conference in October, 1999.

With the groundwork laid for the second year of the project we saw the teachers continue to integrate technology in their teaching methods and monitor and measure student progress against objectives for each class. Through this last phase of the project, we saw student achievement scores improved, just as we have seen teacher comfort levels with the technology tools increase. Teachers were able to impact their students' learning in a positive way by utilizing technology in the classroom. For more information, contact Lisa Brandt by telephone (573-759-7163) or via email at lisa@usmo.com

Marshfield R-I

Having just finished the second year of our TLCF grant, the most exciting outcome of our project has to be the change in our staff members who were part of the project. Through the project and local efforts, we were able to provide over 80 hours of inservice to our staff. We have an excellent staff at Marshfield. However, those participating in the training are more confident, more comfortable, and more excited about integrating technology in the classroom.

Teachers demonstrated tremendous interest and creativity in creating web-based lessons. Our web site has opened an additional channel of communication between the school and parents, patrons, and students in our community. In the second year of the grant, our web site expanded to include not only a district calendar, but also many of the grant participants have created a web-based calendar for their classrooms.

As the teachers have become better trained and more excited, the involvement of students with technology has also improved. The TLCF project has provided additional hardware and software for our students, but at this point the excitement and energy in our staff is greatest benefit to our students. Check out our web-site at

www.mrl.k12.mo.us

Infusing Assistive Technology Into The Curriculum

- *Submitted by the Missouri Technology Center for Special Education*

This six-hour training based on the Assistive Technology (AT) section of “Tools for Tomorrow” Decision Making in the IEP developed by DESE/CISE, will provide the participants with the basic information needed in making appropriate AT decisions for students with disabilities. After completion of the training the participants will have an understanding of the various components of the AT process. Components of the AT process that will be covered during the training are:

- Understanding Assistive Technology and the law,
- Making appropriate decisions based on data collection, AT extended trial periods and a continuum of AT devices,
- Incorporating AT into the IEP,
- Infusing AT into both general and special educators’ curriculum (emphasis on math and reading).

Please contact the RPDC for registration and information. Trainings will be held at the following RPDCs:

Friday, December 1, 2000	Kansas City	816-235-5652
Friday, January 12, 2001	Cape Girardeau	800-401-6680
Friday, January 26, 2001	Warrensburg	800-762-4146
Friday, February 9, 2001	Rolla	800-667-0665 ext 2
Friday, February 23, 2001	Springfield	800-735-3702
Friday, March 2, 2001	Kirksville	888-878-7732
Friday, March 9, 2001	St. Louis	314-872-8282
Friday, March 16, 2001	Maryville	800-663-3348
Friday, March 23, 2001	Columbia	800-214-2753
Thursday, April 5, 2001	Springfield	800-735-3702
Wednesday, April 11, 2001	Kansas City	816-235-5652

Copyright Question of the Month

Q: May an educator (e.g., administrator, classroom teacher, substitute teacher, or student teacher) other district employee, volunteer, or others make a transparency of one image (cartoon, chart, diagram, graph,

picture, or drawing) from a single book or periodical issue to use in face-to-face instruction of students or peers?

A: Yes. An educator may copy one image onto a transparency making an exact copy to display with the use of a projection device. The transparency may be used one time in face-to-face instruction.

Safeguarding the Wired Schoolhouse

<http://www.safewiredschools.org>

“Safeguarding the Wired Schoolhouse” is a briefing paper on school district options for providing access to appropriate Internet content. This project was made possible through the financial support of corporate sponsors, including N2H2 Inc., America Online Inc., and the Education Networks of America. The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) launched the project to help school leaders understand the issues involved in managing Internet content. The 33-page briefing paper helps school leaders understand the technological options available, and frames questions that should be considered when making a decision about whether to control student access to the Internet. The authors stress that no matter what approach a school or district decides to pursue, it should adopt an acceptable use policy (AUP) to govern the use of its network and computers.

Internet Sites of Interest

Need to know how to do something??? Check out this website for help:

<http://www.ehow.com/Center/Center/1,1005,8,FF.html>

Rubrics site for Powerpoint and Hyperstudio presentations:

<http://www.odyssey.on.ca/~elaine.coxon/rubrics.htm>

USA map site:

<http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.dgi/es>

Mark Your Calendar

December

7	Technology Planning Task Force Meeting MOREnet, Columbia, MO 10:00 – 2:00 p.m.
12	VIDEO Advisory Committee Meeting Practical Parenting Partnership Center, Jefferson City, MO 10:00 – 2:00 p.m.
29	Newsline Articles due

January

5	Newsline published online
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Upcoming 2000-01 Conferences

January 11-13	21 st Annual Florida Educational Technology Conference Orlando, FL www.fetc.org
January 25-27	TRLTD 2001 19 th Annual International Conference on Technology, Reading & Learning Difficulties San Francisco, CA www.trld.com
February 5-7	Midwest Education and Technology Conference (METC) Regal Riverfront Hotel, St. Louis, MO
February 20-23	6 th Annual CoSN Conference: K-12 School Networking: Web of Change Washington, DC www.cosn.org/conferences
February 25-27	Missouri ASCD Conference Hyatt Regency Hotel, Kansas City, MO
March 5 – 10	SITE 2001, Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education Holiday Inn International Drive Resort, Orlando, FL www.aace.org/conf/site
March 22-23	HELIX: Higher Education Learning & Information Exchange, TTA 2001
March 27-28	Southwest Education & Technology Conference (RCET-SW) University Plaza Hotel, Springfield, MO
April 21-24	Missouri Association of School Librarians Spring Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO

From the Mailbag

Midwest Education and Technology Conference (METC)

Mark your calendars for the Midwest Education and Technology Conference (METC) on February 5-7, 2001 at the Regal Riverfront Hotel in downtown St. Louis. This year special strands include Women in Technology, Assistive Technology, and a Leadership Seminar. Pre-conference hands-on workshops, half and full day, include topics such as videoconferencing, PowerPoint, SuccessLink, LiveMath, Inspiration software in the classroom, technology planning, grant writing, managing websites using DreamWeaver, creating web quests, music sequencing software, using the electronic alignment tool in conjunction with reports from the Clear Access Program. Contact your district technology coordinator for more information.

AASA Making It Happen Award

CONGRATULATIONS to TINA WOOLSEY, Superintendent of Mountain View-Birch Tree R-II School District, who recently was the first Missourian to receive the AASA Making It Happen Award. It is a nationally recognized educational program highlighting the dramatic role educators play in the learning process using quality technology in the classroom. The program identifies educational technology leaders around the country and rewards those individuals for their commitment and innovation. The award is sponsored by AT&T Learning Network, Knowledge In-Knowledge Out, Netschools, Peter Li Education Group, Teacher Created Materials, Teacher Universe, and The Learning Company. The award was presented to Tina at the AASA National Women's Conference held on November 3-5 at the Ritz-Carlton in Arlington, Virginia.

The Lightspan Network

The Lightspan Network is an Internet portal for k-8 teachers that have been aligned to both the Show-Me Standards and MAP Frameworks. A 30-day free trial is available by logging to www.lightspan.com.

Examine the lesson plans and teaching objectives organized by grade and subject, professional development links, inline encyclopedia, child0centered interactive activities, student and parent links, and more. Also, check out EduTest which is an online assessment program for grades 2-8 that allows teachers to adapt instruction and assessment to individual classroom and student needs. Educators can create unique tests using the existing database of standards-based questions, as well as schedule assessment for school or classroom use. Log on to www.edutest.com and take on the practice tests. For more information about Lightspan, contact Kathie Schoeck, Education Partner director at 1-888-425-5543, ext. 1234.



**Our best wishes to all of you for a safe and happy
Holiday Season!**

From the IT Staff

The January Newsline will go online January 5, 2001.